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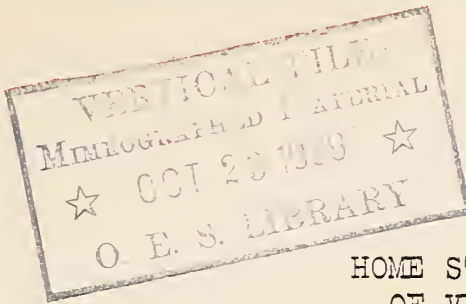




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## HOME STORAGE OF VEGETABLES

Temperature is the important consideration in storing any vegetable through the winter. Pumpkins, squashes, and sweetpotatoes keep best where the air is warm and dry. Onions do well in an upstairs room or attic. White potatoes and most of the root vegetables need a storage place of their own, partitioned off from the main part of the cellar and provided with at least two openings to the outer air for ventilation. The partition need not be elaborate. It may be one board thick and covered with building paper to stop the passage of warm air, if near the heating unit. An earth floor is more desirable than concrete or brick, because it supplies a certain amount of moisture.

Where there is no basement or where it is impossible to partition off a separate storage room, outdoor storage in a pit or storage cellar is preferable. A good storage cellar is often dug in the side of a hill, which contributes part of the necessary insulation that prevents the vegetables from freezing. Earth, sod, straw, or corn fodder helps to protect the products in an outside storage place.

Several small outdoor pits are preferable to one large one. The best storage temperature for potatoes has been found to be 45° to 50° F. Celery and a small supply of carrots, beets, salsify, and parsnips for immediate use may also be kept in the cellar storage room with the potatoes. Apples should not be stored with vegetables that have a pronounced odor as they will absorb such odors, thereby producing unpleasant flavors in the fruit.



Cabbage and turnips should never be kept in the cellar. They are best buried in the open or kept in a suitable outdoors cellar along with the main supply of root crops but in a separate bin or compartment.

Whether the vegetables are kept indoors or outside, good products will not come out of storage unless good products are put in.

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